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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.          | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/596,757  | 06/23/2006  | Naomi Okamoto        | 9369-120US<br>U01-209418C/KK | 1205             |
| 570   | 7590        | 01/26/2009           | EXAMINER                     |                  |
| PANITCH SCHWARZE BELISARIO & NADEL LLP<br>ONE COMMERCE SQUARE<br>2005 MARKET STREET, SUITE 2200<br>PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 |             |                      | CHIN, HUI H                  |                  |
|   |             | ART UNIT             | PAPER NUMBER                 |                  |
|   |             |                      |                              | 4131             |
|   |             | MAIL DATE            | DELIVERY MODE                |                  |
|   |             | 01/26/2009           | PAPER                        |                  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                        |                     |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 10/596,757             | OKAMOTO ET AL.      |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                              | HUI CHIN               | 4131                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .                                     |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/23/2006, 5/29/2007</u> .                                    | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ .                         |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Takeuchi et al. (JP 56109205).

Takeuchi et al. disclose a method for producing a rubber composition containing a 2-40% content of 1,2-polybutadiene, cis-1,4-polyisoprene, toluene, water, cobalt compound (cobalt octanoate), trialkyl aluminum (triethyl aluminum), and carbon disulfide (claim 1, Example 1). This rubber can further be blended with natural rubber or isoprene rubber for tire applications (Table 3 Working Example 3, second paragraph on page 10 in translation, first paragraph on page 3 in translation).

The limitations of claims 2-6 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at Example 1 and pages 4 through 9 in translation, where it discloses the process and polybutadiene containing 98% of a cis-1,4-bond and having a Mooney viscosity of 65.

The limitations of claims 7 and 23 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at first paragraph on page 9 in translation, where it discloses the polymerization temperature in -20 to 80°C.

Claims 8-9 and 24-25 are inherent properties.

The limitations of claims 10-12 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at Claim, where it discloses the cobalt.

The limitations of claims 13 and 14 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at Example 1 and second and third paragraphs on page 5 in translation, where it discloses the process and hydrocarbon-based solvent.

The limitations of claim 15 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at Example 3, where it discloses 50 parts by weight of carbon black.

The limitations of claims 16-22 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at abstract and first paragraph on page 3 in translation, where it discloses the tire applications, improved property to tire cord and high hardness.

The limitations of claims 26 and 27 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at Claim 1, where it discloses the polyisoprene.

The limitations of claim 28 can be found in Takeuchi et al. at Example 1, where it discloses carbon black.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUI CHIN whose telephone number is (571)270-7350. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday; 8:00am - 5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample can be reached on 571-272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ling-Siu Choi/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796

HC

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